

APPENDIX C. U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE LETTER and OTHER LETTERS



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

BLOOMINGTON FIELD OFFICE (FS)

620 South Walker Street

Bloomington, Indiana 47403-2121

(812) 334-4261 FAX 334-4273

January 17, 2001

Mr. Robert Waltz
Indiana DNR, Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology
402 West Washington Street, Room 290
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Dear Mr. Waltz:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has reviewed your letter of January 12, 2001 regarding a gypsy moth treatment program for 6 sites in 6 Indiana counties (Hendrix, Huntington, Kosciusko, Lake, Noble and Wabash). We are submitting the following comments on the year 2001 program.

These comments have been prepared under the authority of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et. seq.) and are consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

One of the proposed treatment methods, spraying with Bacillus thuringensis (Bt), is of concern for 2 federally endangered species of Lepidoptera in Indiana, the Karner blue butterfly (Lyciaides melissa samuelis) and Mitchell's satyr butterfly (Neonympha mitchellii). The known occurrences of these 2 endangered species are in the northern portions of Lake and Porter Counties (Karner blue) and LaPorte and LaGrange Counties (Mitchell's satyr). Neither species is known to occur near the sites identified in your letter. Spraying of Bt will occur at two of the six sites (Noble, Huntington and Wabash Counties), while the remainder of the sites will receive treatments of Disrupt II pheromone flakes, which are considered to be highly specific for gypsy moths with no adverse impacts on the federally listed butterflies.

Other Endangered Species


The proposed treatment sites are within the range of the federally endangered Indiana bat (Myotis sodalis), and federally threatened bald eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus) and copperbelly watersnake (Nerodia erythrogaster neglecta). Based on previous studies the most common food item of Indiana bats is moths, therefore extensive elimination of a broad range of Lepidopteran species has the potential to adversely affect the Indiana bat's food base. Given the very limited

range of the current program and the specificity of the pheromone treatment, the proposed project is not likely to adversely affect these listed species.

This precludes the need for further consultation on this project as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. If, however, new information on endangered species at the site becomes available or if project plans are changed significantly, please contact our office for further consultation.

For further discussion, please contact Mike Litwin at (812) 334-4261 ext. 205.

Sincerely yours,



Scott E. Pruitt
Field Supervisor

cc: Steve Jose, Indiana Division of Fish and Wildlife, Indianapolis, IN
USFWS, Warsaw, IN
Phil Marshall, IDNR, PO Box 218, Vallonia, IN 47281



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Frank O'Bannon, Governor
Larry D. Macklin, Director

Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology
402 W. Washington Street, W290
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748
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April 17, 2001

Gayle R. Jansen
Entomologist Supervisor
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology
402 W. Washington Street, W290
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2748

Federal Agency: The Indiana Department of Natural Resources and the U. S.
Department of Agriculture
Re: Environmental assessment for the gypsy moth eradication projects

Dear Mrs. Jansen:

Thank you for providing notification of the above indicated project dated March 2, 2001.

To our knowledge, the action does not have the potential to effect historic or archaeological resources in Hendricks, Kosciusko, Lake and Noble counties, Indiana. As a result, we believe that the Agency Official has no further obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. § 470 et. seq. and 36 C.F.R. Part 800).

In addition, because state monies are being used as well, the following comments are being provided pursuant to IC 14-21-1-18. Given the scope of work, we believe there is no potential for historic properties to be altered, demolished, or removed by the proposed project. Accordingly, it will not be necessary to obtain a certificate of approval from the Indiana Historic Preservation Review Board under Indiana Code 14-21-1-18.

If you are aware of other facts that may invoke further analysis or have questions, please contact our office at (317) 232-1646. Questions about archaeological issues should be directed to Laurie Sayers. Questions about buildings or structures should be directed to Karie Brudis.

Very truly yours,



Larry D. Macklin
State Historic Preservation Officer

EDM:KAB:LAS:laz

cc: Gary Simon, USDA

INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MEMORANDUM

Division of Fish and Wildlife
402 W. Washington St., Rm. W-273
Indianapolis, IN 46204-2267
(317) 232-4080

DATE: April 12, 2001

TO: Bob Waltz, Director
Gayle Jansen, North Region Supervisor
Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology

FROM: 
Steve Jose, Environmental Coordinator
Diversity and Habitat Protection Unit
Environmental Protection and Operations Section

RE: DNR #8726 - Proposed Gypsy Moth treatment at six (6) sites;
Hendricks, Kosciusko, Lake, and Noble Counties

The Diversity and Habitat Protection Unit has coordinated an environmental review of the above referenced project. Our unit offers the following comments for your information.

The Natural Heritage Program's data indicate that the proposed treatment sites do not have any documented occurrences of state significant natural features including state or federally listed plant or animal species.

We **appreciate** the opportunity to be of service in this matter. Please do not hesitate to come by my office or to call me at **233-6528** if the Diversity and Habitat Protection Unit can be of further assistance.